To spark community revitalization and bolster preservation in towns throughout the state, Indiana Landmarks operates grant and loan programs available only to local nonprofit preservation organizations. We keep the paperwork to a minimum, and in most programs we welcome applications as needs arise.

Efroymson Family Endangered Places Grants

NONPROFIT PRESERVATION organizations can apply for grants from Indiana Landmarks for a variety of projects.

For example, before a group can tackle the restoration of a landmark, it needs answers to big questions: What's wrong? How do we fix it? How much will it cost? How will the building be used? How can we raise the money? Our grants can help pay for answers in the form of architectural and engineering analyses, adaptive use feasibility studies, appraisals, and other preservation-related services. While Endangered Places Grants can help diagnose, plan and prepare restoration and adaptive use projects, they may not be used for brick-and-mortar restoration work.

Indiana Landmarks’ grants also are available for legal assistance to defend or compel conformance with a local preservation ordinance, enforce a protective covenant, or seek an injunction to prevent the demolition of a historic building. On a happier note, our grants can also help preservation organizations grow in size and effectiveness; grants may be used to pay for assistance in fundraising, strategic planning, marketing, and other forms of organizational development.

Indiana Landmarks offers Endangered Places Grants outside of Marion County on a four-to-one matching basis, with four dollars from us matching each local cash dollar. In-kind services may not be used to meet the local match requirement. We will fund 80% of the total project cost up to $2,500 ($3,500 for our affiliates, nonprofit groups that have formally allied themselves with Indiana Landmarks). Grants to a single organization may not exceed $5,000 in any three-year period.

Using a grant from Indiana Landmarks, the town of Plainfield commissioned a feasibility study to explore reuse of the 1954 Plainfield Diner, an entry in our 2010 Most Endangered list. The study helped verify the cost to move and restore the diner, later undertaken by Doug Huff and Don Rector to stunning effect.
Endangered Places Grants in Marion County

IN THE CAPITAL CITY, WE OFFER GRANTS TO nonprofit organizations through a fund established in partnership with the Indianapolis Foundation, an affiliate of the Central Indiana Community Foundation.

Endangered Places Grants in Marion County are available for feasibility studies, architectural and engineering studies, acquisition, construction and restoration. While the grants support brick-and-mortar projects, they cannot cover 100% of a project’s costs.

Indiana Landmarks gives priority to endangered structures and buildings listed in or eligible for the State or National Register of Historic Places as individual sites or as contributing structures in historic districts. Construction and restoration must follow the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation of historic structures.

This program awards grants up to $10,000, giving preference to projects that show additional sources of funding. A nonprofit group may not have more than one active grant from the fund at a time.

African American Heritage Grants

TO ASSIST IN PRESERVING AND PROMOTING historic African American places, Indiana Landmarks makes grants for projects recommended by our African American Landmarks Committee.

Eligible applicants include civic groups, libraries, schools, historical societies and other nonprofit organizations. We award grants for feasibility studies that assist in the preservation of African American landmarks and programs that promote the preservation, interpretation or visitation of such places. Occasionally, this program makes small grants for brick-and-mortar repairs.

Indiana Landmarks makes African American Heritage Grants on a four-to-one matching basis, with four dollars from us matching each local cash dollar. In-kind services may not be used to meet the local match requirement. We will fund 80% of the total project cost up to $2,500. Grants to a single organization may not exceed $5,000 in any three-year period.

Heritage Preservation Education Grants

INDIANA LANDMARKS AND Indiana Humanities make grants for programs that educate the Hoosier public about preservation and historic places. Programs eligible for the Heritage Preservation Education Grants include lectures, workshops, conferences, tours, and the production of websites, audiovisual and print materials, including walking tour brochures, curriculum plans, and guides to historic sites. The maximum grant is $2,000.

Unlike the other grant programs operated solely by Indiana Landmarks, Heritage Preservation Education Grants are awarded annually rather than monthly. A prospectus is due in late March each year, and we announce awards in May. To find out more or receive an application, contact Indiana Landmarks’ Director of Heritage Education, 317-639-4534 or 800-450-4534. To download an application, visit www.indianahumanities.org.

Partners in Preservation Grants

For information on this type of grant, download the Partners in Preservation Grants document at www.indianalandmarks.org.

A National Historic Landmark, Butler University’s Hinkle Fieldhouse won a grant from Indiana Landmarks that helped repair the legendary venue’s historic steel sash windows, one step in a multi-million dollar restoration that concluded in 2014.
Indiana Landmarks makes loans to nonprofit preservation groups to acquire, rescue or restore buildings listed in or eligible for the State or National Register of Historic Places. Loan applications from affiliates receive special consideration (see interest schedules). We prefer to make loans for projects that also involve local investment. Construction and restoration must follow the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation of historic structures.

Efroymson Family Endangered Places Loans

INDIANA LANDMARKS offers loans with favorable terms to nonprofit preservation organizations to buy and/or restore endangered historic properties. Our loans are often used to finance projects that have received reimbursement grants from government programs or other sources (when grant funds are not disbursed until the project is complete).

We make loans up to $60,000 from our Endangered Places Loan Fund. An organization may have multiple active loans from Indiana Landmarks with the total loan balance limited to $100,000. Our loans must be repaid within 36 months or at the time of resale, whichever occurs first. When we make a loan to a nonprofit group for a property which will be resold, we forgive 5% of the loan or $1,500, whichever is less, to help defray marketing costs. In accepting a loan, the recipient commits to attaching Indiana Landmarks’ protective covenants to the property deed.

LOAN TERMS

Our loans to nonprofit preservation organizations offer more favorable terms than banks or mortgage lenders:

- Months 1 through 6 – no interest
- Months 7 through 18 – 4% interest
- Months 19 through 36 – Wall Street Journal prime interest rate

For affiliates—nonprofit preservation groups that have formally allied themselves with Indiana Landmarks—we offer priority consideration for loans and even more attractive terms:

- Months 1 through 12 – no interest
- Months 13 through 24 – 4% interest
- Months 25 through 36 – Wall Street Journal prime interest rate

If an organization does not repay its loan by the end of the three-year term, the interest rate rises to prime plus 3%.

Eligibility Requirements

TO QUALIFY FOR Indiana Landmarks’ grants and loans, an organization generally must:

- be registered as a nonprofit corporation in the state of Indiana
- be classified by or have applied to the Internal Revenue Service for status as a 501(c)(3) public charity
- be enrolled as a nonprofit or affiliate organization member of Indiana Landmarks
- possess a charter that identifies preservation as a primary organizational purpose
- have a clearly defined organizational structure that includes regular meetings and an ongoing program
- have been in existence for three years and/or have demonstrated responsible fiscal management.

For information on nonprofit or affiliate membership, call 317-639-4534, 800-450-4534, or email info@indianalandmarks.org.
Making an Application

As a first step, we require a prospective applicant to contact the Indiana Landmarks regional office that serves the county in which the project is located. This preliminary discussion with our regional staff will confirm your project's eligibility for a particular grant or loan program and provide application forms (all brief and easy to complete).

If you're unsure which office covers your county, visit our website, www.indianalandmarks.org, and use the “in your area” page to find out.

Applications may be submitted at any time, since we approve grants and loans throughout the year (with the exception of the annual Heritage Preservation Education Grants).

REGIONAL OFFICES

Your first stop in applying for Indiana Landmarks’ grant and loan programs is one of our regional offices:

Central Regional Office
Indianapolis
317-639-4534 or 800-450-4534
central@indianalandmarks.org

Eastern Regional Office
Cambridge City
765-478-3172
east@indianalandmarks.org

Northeast Field Office
Wabash
260-563-7094
northeast@indianalandmarks.org

Northern Regional Office
South Bend
574-232-4534
north@indianalandmarks.org

Northwest Field Office
Gary-Miller Beach
219-947-2657
northwest@indianalandmarks.org

Southeast Field Office
Aurora
812-926-0983
southeast@indianalandmarks.org

Southern Regional Office
Jeffersonville
812-284-4534
south@indianalandmarks.org

Southwest Field Office
Evansville
812-423-2988
southwest@indianalandmarks.org

Western Regional Office
Terre Haute
812-232-4534
west@indianalandmarks.org

For Heritage Preservation Education Grants
contact our Director of Heritage Education
317-639-4534 or 800-450-4534
education@indianalandmarks.org

Indiana Landmarks revitalizes communities, reconnects us to our heritage, and saves meaningful places.